

REMARKS

Applicants respectfully request that the foregoing amendments be made prior to examination of the present application. Applicants elect the following with traverse on the grounds that the groups and species can be examined together without an undue burden.

Applicants elect Group I for examination. With respect to the election of species, applicants elect a compound of formula 2, in which $R_1=H$ and $R_2=H$, also known as norketamine. For the species election with respect to type of pain, applicants elect neuropathic pain.

Claim 1 has been amended to provide antecedent basis for $R_1=H$ and $R_2=H$, which is norketamine. This amendment is supported, *inter alia*, at paragraph [0021] of the specification, which states that the present invention can be related to composition of norketamine. Paragraph [0023] of the specification states that the present invention also can be related to methods of treatment using norketamine. The original claims, such as claim 2, which includes norketamine, also support this amendment.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone if it is felt that a telephone interview would advance the prosecution of the present application.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. Should no proper payment be enclosed herewith, as by a check or credit card payment form being in the wrong amount, unsigned, post-dated, otherwise improper or informal or even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. If any extensions of time are needed for timely acceptance of papers submitted herewith, Applicant hereby petitions for such extension under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 and authorizes payment of any such extensions fees to Deposit Account No. 19-0741.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: May 4, 2007

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